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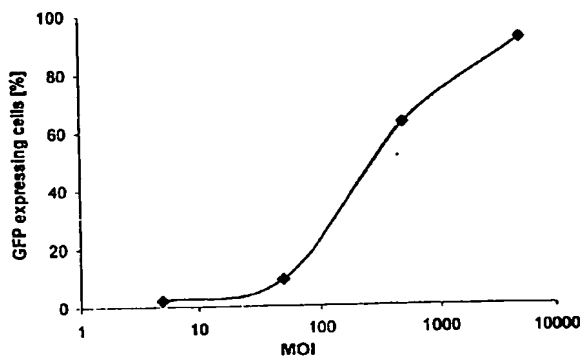
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(54) Title: GENERATION OF RECOMBINANT INFLUENZA VIRUS USING BACULOVIRUS DELIVERY VECTOR



A



B

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method wherein a baculovirus delivery system is used as an alternative for the rescue of recombinant influenza virus. A recombinant baculovirus vector containing mammalian cell-active promoters and transcription terminators was used for delivery of the influenza NS gene segment to Vero cells. In addition to the influenza NS gene segment, the recombinant baculovirus vector contained a reporter gene expression cassette (GFP), allowing to monitor the Vero cell transduction efficiency. More than 90 percent of Vero cells were expressing GFP 24 to 48 hours after transduction. After infecting baculovirus-transduced cells with influenza helper virus, recombinant influenza progeny carrying the synthetic, baculovirus-derived NS gene was isolated. The method further relates to the chimeric baculovirus and to its chimeric genome and further to a method of manufacture of recombinant influenza vaccines using the baculovirus transduction method.

WO 2004/022760 A1

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